

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 18 of page 15 of the original application with the following, amended version of the paragraph:

In any event, as can be seen in FIG. 2, the shell component 62 is maintained within (or alternatively is associated with) the operating system 35. The operating system includes a renderer, such as XML or HTML interpreter 64, having network access software. In addition, file association information is maintained in a database 63 accessible by the operating system (e.g., in a registry). File storage (e.g., one or more hard disk drives 27 (FIG. 1)) is provided for storing multiple programs or executable code-36_i-36_M 36₁-36_n, multiple files of program data (i.e., documents)-38_i-38_N 38₁-38_n, and multiple links-65_i-65_P 65₁-65_n, to remote content (e.g., web based URLs). As used herein, the term "programs" is used broadly herein to mean any application program, program module, or executable code. The shell component 62 accesses the programs-36_i-36_M 36₁-36_n and/or documents-38_i-38_N 38₁-38_n in response to selection by a user of (e.g., clicking) the respective hyperlink. The shell component 62 may also access remote content 66 (e.g., files, web pages, and/or programs located on remote computer 49) in response to a selection of one of the web links-65_i-65₂...65_n 65₁-65_n sent via the shell interface[[,]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 16 of page 16 of the original application with the following, amended version of the paragraph:

At the top level of the multiple-page shell user interface 60, a start page 70 (FIG. 3) provides access via hyperlinks to lower order pages, as well as links to a limited number of local and remote documents 38₁-38_n, web links 65₁-65_n, and programs-38 36₁-36_n. The hyperlinks are displayed as headings, titles, icons, or the like, the selection of which provides access (via the shell component 62) to either a lower order page or local and/or remote programs, documents, websites, services, or devices.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 17 of the original application with the following, amended version of the paragraph:

The start page 70 and the lower order pages described herein are preferably HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) pages. HTML-created pages permit easy embedding of hyperlinks to web-based URLs or local references, and editing by a designer or a user. Note, however, there is no intention to limit the present invention to HTML, as virtually any page format language, e.g., XML (Extensible Markup Language) or DHTML (Dynamic HTML) or other page creation mechanism will suffice. Hyperlinks to pages, programs, documents, web links, services, devices, and the like are embedded in the pages of the shell user interface 60, in a

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 14 of page 19 of the original application with the following, amended version of the paragraph:

As is described further below, the headings 90-100 contain a hyperlink to a lower order page related to that heading. Therefore, selecting (e.g., clicking on) one of the headings 90-100 navigates a user to a page for that heading. For example, clicking on the Programs heading 90 links the user to a Programs page 102-142 (FIG. 5FIG. 8). To return to the start page 70 from a lower order page in the hierarchy, a user clicks the Start Button 72 on the task bar 74.